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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/486,341	02/25/2000	HIROSHI YAMAZAKI	000104	4432
38834	7590	04/06/2004	EXAMINER	
WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP 1250 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, NW SUITE 700 WASHINGTON, DC 20036			POINVIL, FRANTZY	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3628	

DATE MAILED: 04/06/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/486,341	YAMAZAKI ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Frantzy Poinvil	3628	Mly

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 January 2004.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 11-25,37,39 and 40 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) 11-25, 37, and 39-40 is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claims 16 and 40 are objected to because of the following informalities:

As per claim 16, line 6, “rage” should be changed to - -rate- -.

As per claim 40, line 5, the Examiner suggests removing the word “respectively” since there does not appear to be a plurality of transaction modeling functions. On lines 11-12, “the one or more” should be removed since “the one or more unit transaction modeling function” has not been previously recited. On line 14, “a receipt side and a payment side” should be changed to - -the receipt side and the payment side- -. On line 17, “transaction sequence modeling function for holding a reference information group” should read - -the transaction sequence modeling function for holding the reference information group- -. Also on line 18, “a receipt side and a payment side” should be changed to - -the receipt side and the payment side- -.

These changes are deemed necessary for better readability purposes.

Appropriate correction is required.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 11-25, 37 and 39-40 are allowable over the art of record.

The prior art taken alone or in combination failed to teach or suggest a transaction sequence modeling means comprising a reference information storage means and a transaction sequence characteristic computation means as recited in independent claim 11.

The prior art taken alone or in combination failed to teach or suggest a transaction sequence modeling means comprising a reference information storage means and a transaction sequence characteristic computation means as recited in independent claim 37.

The prior art taken alone or in combination failed to teach or suggest a unit transaction modeling means comprising a unit transaction information storage means as recited in independent claim 39.

The prior art taken alone or in combination failed to teach or suggest a transaction sequence modeling function as recited in independent claim 40.

3. This application is in condition for allowance except for the following formal matters:
See Item or Paragraph 1 above.

Prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire **TWO MONTHS** from the date of this letter.

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Frantzy Poinvil whose telephone number is (703) 305-9779. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 7:00AM-5:30PM.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9326 for Before Final actions and (703) 87209327 for After Final actions.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1113.

FP
April 2, 2004


FRANTZY POINVIL
PRIMARY EXAMINER
Apr 3628